

# Seattle Human Rights Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> 2012, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

City Hall - Boards and Commissions Room

**Commissioners Present:** Jessica Andrade, Katherine Beckett, Isabel Bussarakum, Nika Dahlbacka, Alejandra Gonza, Marsha Mavunkel, Michael Mitchell, Catherine Moore, Andrea Negrete, Marty Penner, Christopher Stearns

**Commissioners by Phone:** Christina Ygoni & Jennifer Yogi

**Commissioners Absent:** Greg Ramirez

**SOCR Staff Present:** Michael Chin, Felicia Yearwood

**Guest Speakers:** Aaron Dixon, Founder [Seattle Black Panther Party](#)  
Arsalan Bukhari, Executive Director, [CAIR-WA](#)  
Toby Guevin, [One America](#)

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** September 2012 minutes were approved as read

**SOCR report:** Michael Chin

- \$20,000 settlement in race based case
- PSST calls have declined since last month; calls coming from unions and employees
- Sending RSJI survey to all city employees
- Governing for Racial Equity conference 12/13 & 12/14 Van Jones & Connie Rice
- Building Bridges event next week in conjunction with Coming Out Day
- SOCR 2013 Budget expected to be reduced by 1.5%

**Presentation by Guest Speaker:** Aaron Dixon

- Race discrimination in housing, employment and schools persisted through the 1960's
- Assassinations of civil rights leaders fueled frustrations of young people of color
- FBI attacked Black Panther Party, killed 70 people, imprisoned 800
- Party created 60 programs, including medical, legal, and food aid
- Advised SHRC to establish community connections, in response to external pressures

**Presentation by Guest Speakers:** Arsalan Bukhari and Toby Guevin

- [Rights Working Group](#) will hold its convention in Seattle on November 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>
- Asked Commissioners to attend and publicize
- Seeking use of Bertha Knight Landes room for speak out session

## **Committee Reports:**

**Human Rights Resolution:** Cathy Moore and Alejandra Gonza will reconcile two draft resolutions and share with Council members by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **City Budget Analysis:**

**MOTION:** To send budget analysis letter to Council after editing by Michael Mitchell, Cathy Moore, and Andrea Negrete. **ACTION: PASSED**

## **Bias Crimes Forum**

**MOTION:** To allocate \$100.00 toward cost of refreshments. **ACTION: PASSED**

## **Wrongful Conviction in Two Countries**

**MOTION:** To allocate \$50.00 toward refreshments. **ACTION: PASSED**

**Retreat:** The retreat will be held at SOCR on October 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 3:00

**Human Rights Day:** Commissioners are urged to like the HRD Facebook page

**UW Students:** Law, Society, and Justice students interested in internships

**Nominating:** Three candidates: David Lujano, Angela Ying, and Andrea Negrete

**Police Accountability:** The Executive Committee recommends against reappointment of Kathryn Olson as Director of the Office of Professional Accountability.

**Law and Policy Analysis:** Council is expected to vote on the arrest and conviction records in employment proposal in November. The housing proposal is under review.

## **Announcements:**

- Columbia University will use the Commission's Violence Against Women Act resolution as a case study.
- Five Commission Meeting 11/14/12, 5:30-7:00 p.m., SOCR